

General Terms and Definitions

Certificate of Approval	An official certificate issued by the California Type Evaluation Program (CTEP) after successful completion of evaluation and testing of sample devices. It indicates that the submitted device type meets applicable weights and measures requirements for commercial weighing and measuring instruments. This certificate is required only for the commercial use of weighing and measuring instruments within the State of California.
Certificate of Conformance	<p>California is a participating National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP) laboratory and is authorized to evaluate weighing and measuring instruments for NTEP Certificates of Conformance when assigned by the National Conference on Weights and Measures. NTEP certificates are accepted in all states and form a basis for mutual recognition certification (NTEP and Measurement Canada) for some device types. You can obtain information and applications for NTEP certificates and mutual recognition with Measurement Canada from the worldwide web Internet at the following URL addresses:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> http://www.ncwm.net/ntep/index.cfm?fuseaction=search, http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/inmc-mc.nsf/en/h_lm02454e.html, </p> <p>Both NTEP and California certificates are accepted in California unless specifically withheld or revoked by NTEP or by the Secretary of Food and Agriculture. Information on whether a certificate has been revoked or withheld in California is available from the Department.</p>
Instrument or Device	<p><i>A weighing or measuring instrument or system used to determine physical quantity or an element or component of a weighing or measuring instrument that performs a metrological function that can be separately examined or is subject to specified error limits or other requirements.</i></p> <p>Weighing or measuring instruments often include other related functions and features governed by weights and measures requirements such as display, storage, or comparison of measured values, price computations, value determinations, etc.</p>
Measurement or Measuring Instrument	When used in general terms, measurement or measuring instrument includes devices or systems employed in the determination of physical quantity such as, but not limited to, weighing, dimensional measurement, volume determination, determination of energy or power content, timing devices, counting instruments, etc. Often weight determination is identified separately when being distinguished from other measuring instruments, hence the terms "weights and measures" or "weighing and measuring instruments".
Metrological Functions	Elements or features of a measurement instrument or system that perform the measurement process or that may affect the final quantity determination or resulting price determinations. This includes accessories that can affect the validity of transactions based upon the measurement process. Metrological functions include determination of quantities; the transmission, processing, storage, or other corrections or adjustments of measurement data or values; and the display or recording of measurement values or other derived values such as price or worth or charges resulting from the measurement process.
Type Evaluation	The examination of a weighing or measuring instrument for the legal purpose of certifying that its design and performance complies with all applicable weights and measures requirements. It is unlawful for an instrument to be placed into commercial use unless it is of a type approved by the Department.
Use for Commercial Purposes	<p>This term refers to weighing or measuring instruments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Used in buying, selling, or exchanging goods, things, or commodities. ◆ Used in determining value of goods or services for compensation or assessment. <p>For establishing the cost for services or hire on the basis of measurement.</p>